

- (ii) Government has rationalized value addition/Input-output norms specified under the Exim Policy extended to exporters, the facility of duty free import of raw material under the Advance Licensing Scheme, import of capital goods at concessional rate of duty for export products.
- (iii) For Technological upgradation of the industry, loan at 5% point less than applicable rate, under the Technological Upgradation Fund Scheme for the Textiles sector is available *inter alia* to the silk sector.
- (iv) Government have initiated a production programme of high quality bivoltine silk to improve quality of Indian silk and increase its productivity and cost competitiveness.
- (v) Import of raw silk has been liberalized by being brought under OGL, which has increased availability of good quality silk.

**Advancing the hearing of NTC by BIFR**

**1184. SHRI C. P. THIRUNAVUKKARASU:** Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction has agreed to advance the hearing on the matter of sick National Textiles Corporation as requested by the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there are other hurdles in the implementation of N.T.C. revival package; and

(d) if so, the steps proposed for early implementation of revival package?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAY KUMAR):** (a) and (b) NTC has filed submission before BIFR on 6.11.2001 for advancing the dates of hearing for early finalisation of the Rehabilitation Schemes

of the 8 sick subsidiaries of NTC. BIFR has so far not decided on advancing the hearing.

(c) The Rehabilitation Scheme has to be approved by BIFR after ascertaining the views/concurrence of all concerned on the sacrifices/concessions proposed in the Draft Rehabilitation Schemes (DRSs) before taking final decision.

(d) Government of India have conveyed their consent to BIFR for the sacrifices proposed and have also requested for advancing the date of hearing for early finalisation of the package.

**Meeting of Export promotion council to boost exports**

1185. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO:

SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has convened a meeting in the third week of October, 2001 of export promotion councils in the textile sector to discuss measures to boost exports;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the impact of September 11, terrorists attacks in the US on the Indian textile exports; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to minimise the damage caused to our exports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAY KUMAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A meeting of the Chairpersons and Chief Executives of Textile Export Promotion Councils was held under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Minister for Textiles on 15th October, 2001 to discuss and review the export performance *vis-a-vis* targets during the current year and steps to be taken to boost exports.

(c) and (d) A declining trend has been noticed in the textile exports since the beginning of the year 2001, which is mainly due to the slow-down in the economies of some of the major importing